stood that such a machine will be provided with complementary stitch-forming mechanism, shown generally at B, and appropriate fabric feeding mechanism, C, neither of which forms any part of my present invention. On the underside of the work-plate, A, I attach or apply in any well known manner a heating medium, E, for the purpose of imparting heat to that portion of the work-plate over which the adjacent edges of the pieces of knitted goods to be joined are caused to pass on their way to the stitch-forming mechanism.

I may use any desired agency for generating or imparting the heat to the work-plate and the purpose of which heat is to take the curl or kink otu of the edges of the fabric as the same passes over the plate and just before the seaming of the edges of the goods is completed, but for the sake of cleanliness, I prefer to employ electricity as the medium for heating the plate and the guides through which the curled edges of the goods are caused to pass. To this end I have shown a casing, F, on the under part of the work-plate, which casing carries any suitable form of resistance coil, G, or other medium capable of being heated when a current of electricity is sent through it, said coil or medium having its opposite poles connected to binding posts, *a a'*, to which latter the terminals of the usual conductors from a source of electricity may be attached, in any manner well known in this art, whereby when the current is turned on the resistance coil is heated and the heat of this coil is imparted to the work-plate over which the pieces of goods with the edges curled are caused to pass, by the feeding mechanism of the machine.

I prefer that the curled edges of the goods shall pass between suitable guides, *b—b'*, and that the inner ends of these guides shall be in the form of resilient tongues which terminate in proximity to the presser-foot and feeding mechanism of the machine, between which tongues the curled edges of the pieces of fabric are caused to pass. These guides or plates, *b—b'*, over or between which the pieces of fabric are caused to pass by the feeding mechanism, are also heated and hence heat is transmitted to the curled edges of the goods as the latter pass over the plates and pass through the tongues formed at the forward end thereof. The application of heat to the curled edges of the goods, as I have established by practical experiment, causes said edges to straighten out and lie smooth on the work-plate, like a plain piece of cloth goods, and this allows me to sew over close to the edge, even to the last stitch of the selvage, if desired.

As before stated, I prefer to use electricity as the heating agency because there is less danger of the goods being soiled, as by carbon which might be produced if other forms of heat are employed, and by using any of the well known form of rheostats, H, I am able to regulate the amount of heat at pleasure.

It will be understood, of course, that I do not limit my invention to the heat produced from electricity, but that I consider my invention to include any and all methods and agencies of heating the work-plate, or the part over or through which the curled edges of the goods are caused to pass, it being only essential that the heating shall be continued to a point as close to the needle as possible so as not to give the edges a chance to cool and re-curl, as they would if the goods had to travel any considerable distance over an unheated portion of the plate or guide before reaching the stitch-forming mechanism.

By the method described, I am enabled to obtain a perfect seam with rapid sewing as the heat has the function of pushing out or straightening the curl in the edges of the pieces of goods to be united and thus holds the edges in perfect alinement at all times and prepares the edges of the opposed pieces of fabric so that they may be brought together for seaming in a perfectly flat condition, resulting in a soft, flat and smooth seam, sewed close to the edge, and dispensing with any bulkiness in the seam, and producing a seam which will not break its thread and will leave no projection or rib as the sewing is clear and plain and the operator can observe at all times the operation of the stitch-forming mechanism, the same as on any plain piece of cloth.

In the drawing I have shown the work-plate of the machine as being inclined at one of the corners, which accordingly inclines the casing containing the resistance coil or heater and the guides *b—b'*, but the forward ends of these guides are bent so that they shall be substantially parallel with the major portion or top surface of the guide plate. This, however, is but an arbitrary arrangement and may be departed from, if desired.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. The method herein described of selvage sewing of knitted goods, said method consisting, essentially, in applying heat to the edges of two pieces of goods and immediately joining said edges by stitching.

2. As a step in the method herein described, of selvage sewing of goods whose edges have a tendency to curl, the removing of the curl from said edges by heat administered thereto immediately preceding the joining of the edges by stitching.

3. The method herein described of selvage sewing of knitted goods whose edges have